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DEVON BELL

EDWARD N. BONNER SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

## PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, September 16, 2010

Date/Time of Occurrence: September 21-22, 2010

Nature of Event: Golf Tourney Raises Funds for Community Programs

Location of Call: Lake Tahoe, CA

Released by: Dena Erwin, PIO (530) 889-6901

## SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

Nearly 300 golfers from across the country will be converging on the Tahoe area next week to attend the Placer County Sheriff Office's Youth in Action (YIA) Golf Classic, September 21 and 22, at Timilick Golf Course and Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort.

Since the Sheriff's Office assumed primary responsibility of the tournament three years ago, more than \$10,000 has been raised to benefit Sheriff's community services programs countywide, drug and alcohol prevention programs in Tahoe area schools, and the California Association of Highway Patrol Widows and Orphans' Trust Fund. Another \$6,000 is expected to be generated this year.

The success of this annual tournament is made possible by the generosity of local businesses, specifically Timilick's golf professional Clint Bassett, Northstar's general manager Chris Ryman, golf professional Pete Smith and golf tournament and day group sales manager Greg Righellis.

"It is incredible the amount of support these gentlemen and their courses give our tournament," said Sheriff's Community Services Officer and tournament organizer Melinda Maehler. "They bend over backwards to accommodate us, and the golfers have a great time."

Prior to the Sheriff's Office taking the lead in tournament organization, the Truckee California Highway Patrol Office hosted the golf classic for 26 years. They are also still a part of the board of directors and have a say in how tournament funds are spent. In 2008, the Sheriff's Office teamed with YIA, a group of more than 80 high school and 45 middle school students in Tahoe schools, to continue the golf classic's success. Many golfers attending the tournament are retired and active law enforcement, are from other public safety fields, or are in the private sector.

"In this difficult economy it's encouraging to see people give their time and money to benefit programs that have lost so much of their government funding," said Maehler.